Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/NE:DCGOODMAN/JAN APPROVED BY EUR:RDVINE EUR/NE:REWOODS DOD/ISA:MAJ. ROUGEAU (PHONE) PM/SAS:SGEIS L/PM:TBOREK EUR/NE:DJDONCHI

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TO AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE
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SECDEF

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, MASS, NO, NL, BE, DA

SUBJECT: F-16 THIRD COUNTRY SALES: SUGGESTED REPLY TO NORWEGIAN REQUEST

REFS: STATE 300115 (1977); OSLO 33

1. BELOW IS OPERATIVE PORTION OF LETTER WHICH LTG FISH WILL CARRY TO OSLO JANUARY 20 FOR DELIVERY TO GON. EMBASSY AT ITS DISCRETION MAY DELIVER ADVANCE TEXT TO CONFIDENTIAL

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STOLTENGERG AS BASIS FOR ENSUING STOLTENBERG-FISH DISCUSSIONS.

2. THE ARRANGEMENT PROPOSED WITH NORWAY COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE OTHER CO-PRODUCERS HAVING A SIMILAR NEED. IN HIS DISCUSSION WITH US OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON DURING DECEMBER 1977, MR. STOLTENBERG INDICATED HE WAS PREPARED TO CONTACT THE OTHER EPGS. HE WAS ADVISED TO WAIT UNTIL A

BILATERAL POSITION BETWEEN THE US AND NORWAY WAS AGREED UPON. ONCE THAT IS DONE, WE SEE AN ADVANTAGE IN RAPID COMMUNICATION WITH THE OTHER THREE CO-PRODUCERS, THROUGH ESTABLISHED STEERING COMMITTEE CHANNELS.

- 3. EMBASSIES IN WASHINGTON WILL BE CONCURRENTLY INFORMED AND ADVISED THAT THIS MATTER WILL BE THOROUGHLY DISCUSSED AT THE FORTHCOMING 8-9 FEBRUARY 1978 F-16 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING.
- 4. PROPOSAL AS FOLLOWS: "IN ORDER TO FACILITATE NORWEGIAN CO-PRODUCTION PARTICIPATION, COMPONENTS ORIGINATING FROM NORWEGIAN INDUSTRY WILL BE POOLED WITH OTHER PRODUCTION RESOURCES AND EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE, WITHIN THE CONSTRAINTS OF THE F-16 CONTRACTUAL STRUCTURE, TO INSURE THAT THESE BE INITIALLY INSTALLED IN NATO F-16 AIRCRAFT. ALL F-16 AIRCRAFT WILL BE DELIVERED AND ACCEPTED BY THE US GOVERNMENT PRIOR TO TRANSFER TO ANY OTHER COUNTRY."
- 5. LETTER FROM GENERAL FISH INCLUDES FINAL PARAGRAPH WHICH IS NOT PART OF FORMAL PROPOSAL AND WHICH READS: "AS STATED ABOVE, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WILL ACCEPT AND TAKE TITLE TO ALL F-16 AIRCRAFT PRIOR TO TRANSFER TO ANY OTHER COUNTRY. THIS WILL BE TRUE IN ALL CASES, EXCEPT THOSE INVOLVING DIRECT COMMERCIAL SALES BY THE CONTRACTOR."

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6. FOR INFO POSTS: INFORMATION IS FYI ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE SHARED WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS AT THIS TIME. CHRISTOPHER

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